

DEMOCRACY IS BADLY TORN UP

Shanklin's Wild-Eyed Cleveland Boom Proving a Big Boomerang

He and Taggart, Moss and Ball Have "Played
Hob" and Set the Party by the Ears
All Over Indiana.

Leading Lights on Both Sides Gather to Hold Separate and Joint Confabs.

It Looks Like War to the Knife—Matthews
Be Brought Out for Governor—Rural
Press Sits on the Combine.

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DEMOCRATIC CAT-FIGHT.

Cleveland and Gray Leaders in a Turmoil—
War from Now On.

A conference was held at the Denison

house yesterday among prominent Democratic politicians, the result of which will be a split in the Democratic forces in the State, and the inauguration of a bitter ante-convention fight between the two factions.

To-day Secretary of State Claude Matthews, the "farmer" politician, will announce himself as a candidate for Governor.

He will represent the Gray end of Indiana.

ana Democracy, while J. Gilbert Shanklin of Evansville, also a candidate for Governor, will represent the Cleveland strength in the State. The conference yesterday was held in the interest of Isaac Pusey Gray and his henchmen from various parts of the State were called hither by telegraphic dispatches. Among those who were at the conference were Messrs. Mendenhall, Gilchrist,

conference were Mason J. Abblack, of Villaville; James Murdock, of Lafayette; John J. Beasley, of Sullivan; Crawford Fairbanks, of Terre Haute; W. C. Hutz, of Sullivan; Eli W. Brown, editor of the Frankfort Crescent, and others.

committee, was invited to attend, but after a confab with Shanklin both gentlemen decided to remain away. The Gray conference was called because of the attack made upon Gray's presidential candidacy.

General James Shields Irish-American Club of this city, in which he said that it was time Indiana Democracy should quit going to national conventions with "first-end propositions and tail-end amendments." The

tensions and tall-end expectations. "I made Sir Isaac very 'sore,' and when the two Democratic papers, the News and the Sentinel, rubbed it in on him he became furious. Consequently he had his henchmen telegraphed for, and they arrived yesterday morning to talk the matter over and try an

The conference had not proceeded far when it developed that no truce was possible and all hope of bringing the two factions together was laid on the table.

BRINGING MATTHEWS OUT.

The most important result of the conference was the bringing out of Matthews.

The most important result of the conference was the determination on the part of the Gray people to have "Farmer Matthews stop toying with fate and at once come out and announce himself as a candidate for Governor. Mr. Matthew

had been sent to the Winchester convention yesterday morning, by Gray, to try and manipulate it to instruct for the latter and when he returns the announcement of the fact that he is a gubernatorial candidate will at once be made. This means

that young Mason J. Niblack must be relegated to the rear and accept "tail-end expectations" or nothing. In the same way Mortimer Nye, of LaPorte, will fall in behind Shanklin, who, by his recent declarations and manipulations (with the aid and advice of editors Mor-

Haute) has forced himself to the front as the Cleveland candidate for the governorship. This latter combination ought to be a winner in the State convention if the opinion of the chairman of the State committee amounts to anything.

"You know," said this oily and exceedingly urbane gentleman, "that a State chairman should not mix up in such matters."

"What do you think of the present situation?" he was asked.

"There is no question but that the majority of Indiana Democrats are for Cleveland. I am for Cleveland, but if the presidential nomination must come West I am for Cress." (The ticket I am in favor of is the ticket I am in favor of.)

In an interview in the News yesterday afternoon Mr. Taggart expressed himself more fully on this point, but possibly not quite as intelligently, as is shown by the following quotation:

"I know what I am in favor of," said he, "I am in favor of giving Gray the complimentary vote at Chicago, with the understanding that when becomes evident that Gray cannot be nominated Cleveland is to have the vote of the State. My ticket is Cleveland and Gray, and that is it. I think Indiana Democrats should work for it. I wish you would deny for me the statement that I am in favor of giving Gray the complimentary vote."

I made a speech at the Orange county convention favoring Cleveland as against Gray. I made no such speech. What we Democrats want is harmony. We want to let personal differences pass. We want to be for Cleveland for President Gray for Vice-president and Turpie for Senate. You may also say that I am in favor of the Indiana delegation going to Chicago instructed.

Although the Democrats were unusually reticent concerning the status of affairs yesterday, it can be clearly seen that a battle is on in the Democratic ranks, and that until the convention decides its Grangerist interpretation of the platform

does not intend to take a back seat in a cordance with the dictates of the Cleveland leaders. He, in other words, will not be satisfied with a promise of the complimentary vote of the Indiana delegation.

In line with the new phase of affairs developed yesterday is a scheme just brought

to light upon which Chairman Ta
gart has been working to instru
the Marion county Democratic coun
convention for Cleveland. With the he
of local politicians an effort will be ma
to manipulate the convention in the int
est of the Cleveland-Shanklin factio

Said a prominent Democrat, yesterday, a Journal reporter: "The slate has been made up. It is Shanklin for Governor, John W. Kern or Alex Ayres for delegate to the national convention, John Lande for county treasurer and Mike Farrell for county commissioner."

NO QUARTER GIVEN.
Last night lounging about the Bat House was a well-known Democrat, who generally well informed. Said he to Journal reporter: "After the Gray co-

the Cleveland men were called in and a joint conference was held. The Gray people asked for a complimentary vote of the State delegation for their leader, but the Clevelandites refused to grant even the

much. They said that it would be tin enough to talk of a complimentary vote if Gray when it had been demonstrated the national convention that Cleveland could not be nominated. Thus was the la hope of a truce lost.

"Another thing," continued the gentle

man, "was the decision to announce Matthews as a candidate for Governor. The was not done because of any decision combine all the interests opposed to Cleveland and throw the strength to Matthew but to get as many candidates in the field as possible in order to sap Shanklin's

strengths." Mason J. Niblack, it is understood, does not take kindly to the work of the Gr